

11.25.23

NON-EUROPEAN LIBRARY SERVICE, TRANSVAAL.

A meeting of the Committee of the Non-European Library Service will be held at the Public Library, Boksburg, at 3 p.m. on Friday, 16th November.

1st November, 1951.

H. Barker.  
Hon. Sec.

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AGENDA.

1. Minutes of previous meeting (29th June), of special meeting (2nd Aug.), and of two Executive Committee meetings (29th Aug. and 11th Oct.)  
(Copies of the first three sets of minutes have already been circulated. Copy of the last-mentioned herewith)
2. Financial statement. (Herewith)
3. Librarian's report.
4. Frequency of ordinary meetings of the Committee.
5. General.

NON-EUROPEAN LIBRARY SERVICE, TRANSVAAL.

MINUTES of a meeting of the Executive Committee, held in Pretoria on 11th October, 1951.

PRESENT: Mrs. Churchill, Mr. Jackson (in the Chair), ~~Miss Nicholson~~, Mrs. Peters, Mr. Stirling and the Secretary.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, 29th August, were presented and adopted.

LIBRARY SERVICE FOR LADY SELBORNE LOCATION: Members of this Committee have explored the possibilities of starting some form of library service at Lady Selborne, and have been able to arrange for the use of a room in the municipal offices in Lady Selborne. Every effort has been made to obtain the services of a voluntary librarian without success. After discussion, it was resolved that the Chief Inspector, Transvaal Education Department (Native Education) should be approached with a view to one of the staff at the headquarters library being released for service in Lady Selborne on two afternoons a week, from 2 to 4.30. Regret was expressed that this arrangement would make no provision for adult workers who would be unable to visit the library at these hours, but it was felt that this preliminary step might pave the way to further development in the future.

FINANCE: The Secretary reported that a grant-in-aid of £125 had been received from the Anglo-American Corporation. The Committee expressed its appreciation.

The question of the Committee's paying examination and other fees in connection with the professional studies of the staff at the headquarters library was discussed. It was resolved:

1. That affiliation fees, which are essential to permit students to study for and write the examinations of the South African Library Association, should be paid by the Committee.
2. That correspondence course fees, if paid by the Committee on request, should be considered as loans.
3. That all entrance fees for examinations should be paid by the Committee except when any examination is being rewritten after failure.

DEPUTATION TO MEET MEMBERS OF BRAKPAN TOWN COUNCIL: The Secretary reported that a reply had been received to a letter written in April requesting a meeting to discuss non-European library services and financial assistance, this letter being one of several written to municipalities which have in the past assisted the Service, but which are no longer doing so. As the matter of reorganizing our service in municipal areas has arisen since the date of this letter, and as Brakpan has no library services for non-Europeans to our knowledge, it was decided that the librarian of the Brakpan Public Library be approached with a view to enlisting his sympathies and ensuring his cooperation, and that a deputation should visit Brakpan on 12th November to attempt to persuade the Council to set up or develop a location library on the lines followed in other municipal areas, the Committee undertaking to advise and cooperate.

DEPUTATION TO MEET MUNICIPAL OFFICERS OF VEREENIGING: In view of the fact that the non-European library system at Vereeniging is already functioning on the lines desired under the Committee's reorganization scheme, it was felt that an attempt should be made at clarifying the position with regard to Mrs. Visser's supervisory work. In reply to a letter requesting a meeting with the Town Clerk, the Librarian, and the Non-European Affairs Manager, an appointment has been made for the 24th October, and a deputation will visit Vereeniging on that date.

DATE OF NEXT ORDINARY COMMITTEE MEETING: After discussion, it was decided that the next Committee meeting should be held on 16th November, at either Boksburg or Germiston.

STAFF REPORTS: The Librarian reported that the Transvaal Education Department (Native Education) had asked for confidential reports on the non-European staff at the headquarters library. These reports were submitted to the meeting and approved.

CHAIRMAN.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES, 5.6.51 - 31.10.51.

RECEIPTS:

Anglo-American Corporation grant	£125. 0. 0
Pretoria Non-European Library	25. 0. 0
Germiston Town Council	10. 0. 0
S.A.R. & H. refund	9.10
E. Fanele (repayments on loan of fees)	2. 0. 0
E. Moletsane (repayment of loan of fees)	5. 0
J. Churchill (refund of private purchase charged to Service's account)	6. 4
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	£163. 1. 2
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EXPENDITURES:

Salaries	£93.10. 0
Books	81. 0. 4
Periodicals and newspapers	5. 3. 7
S.A. Library Association (exam. fees)	2.10. 0
Stationery, sundries, etc.	22. 8. 9
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	£204.12. 8
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FUNDS IN HAND:

Balance at Rand Provident Building Society	£719. 9. 5
Balance at Barclays Bank	26. 2. 5
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	£745.11.10

H. Barker,  
HON. TREASURER.

## GENERAL REPORT.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER from the Transvaal Education Department, dated 30th October, 1951:

"It has now been decided that Native librarians be ranked as clerks in the public service. Such clerks must be matriculated and be bi-lingual (English and Afrikaans). Provision has been made for two grades, viz., Grade II on the salary scale £150 x £15 - £180 x £20 - £300, and Grade I, £240 x £20 - £380. These salaries compare more than favourably with those applicable to Native teachers, especially as such clerks are eligible for pension. Possession of advanced library certificates will undoubtedly be considered in cases of promotion."

LADY SELBORNE LIBRARY SERVICE: A reply has been received from the Transvaal Education Department approving the use of Mr. Moletsane's services as librarian at Lady Selborne from 2 - 4.30 on two afternoons of the week, "until such time as a librarian can be found". The plan is accordingly being proceeded with, the present plan being considered as provisional.

VEREENIGING NON-EUROPEAN LIBRARY SERVICE: A deputation visited Vereeniging on 24th October, to meet representatives of the Town Council. The existing situation was discussed, and Mrs. Visser's supervisory connection with the service at Sharpville was clarified. The possibility of providing some form of service for the "Top Location" was also discussed. It was felt that this development could safely be left to the initiative of Mrs. Visser. A visit to the Sharpville library confirmed the deputation's belief in the value of the visit. The system centred on this library can be quoted with confidence as a model for the type of centralized municipal service which the Committee wishes to recommend elsewhere.

PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN BY MEANS OF FILMS: A resolution was taken at the meeting of 29th June that a sub-committee should wait on Mr. Chartrand of the U.S. Legation, to discuss the possibilities of his offer of cooperation and assistance. This meeting did not lead to any specific undertaking, but Mr. Chartrand stated that he is planning a publicity campaign and organizing the film unit required, and that when the time comes he will be pleased to have the Non-European Library Service collaborate with him.

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